ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A copied print giving the same impression as the original
is generated. ID information is embedded in original picture
data and stored in storage means while an original picture is
printed and provided to a user. The user generates an original
image by using the original picture and requests printing of
the original image from a laboratory. In the laboratory, reading
means reads the original image and reads the ID information
from the original picture included in the original image. The
original picture data corresponding to the ID information are
read from the storage means to be used for generating composite
image data. At this time, matching is carried out between
initial image data representing the original image and the
original picture data, and the original picture is positioned
to be pasted on the composite image data. The composite image
data are printed by a printer.